



City of Tomah Zoning/Inspection Department  
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## **FENCES: MOST OFTEN ASKED QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

**Q: Do I need a building permit?**

- Yes

**Q: How much will it cost?**

- There is a \$20 flat fee for fence permits.

**Q: How do I get a permit?**

- Bring to the Zoning/Inspection Department at City Hall the following:
  - ✓ One set of “to scale” plans. Plans may be submitted via email if you wish. A set includes a top or “plan view” looking down on your project showing placement of the fence with measurements to property lines.
  - ✓ A description of the fence including the height and type of materials.

**Q: How close to my lot line can I build my fence? (City Ordinance is below)**

Sec. 52-209 – Fences and Hedges

(b) *Requirements.*

- (1) No fence exceeding three feet in height shall be erected, constructed or maintained in front of the setback line for principal buildings on any premises within a residential district.
- (2) Property owners shall locate fences no closer than two feet from the property line so that each side of the fence may be properly maintained by the owner of the fence while on said owners property. This requirement can be waived if a maintenance free fence is installed. A property survey which identifies both the boundaries of the property and the location of the proposed fence is required to obtain a building permit.

*Property survey:* Property lines that have been determined and defined by a Wisconsin professional land surveyor, marked on the ground by monuments at the property corners and delineated on a signed and sealed map using minimum standards as defined by AE-7 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

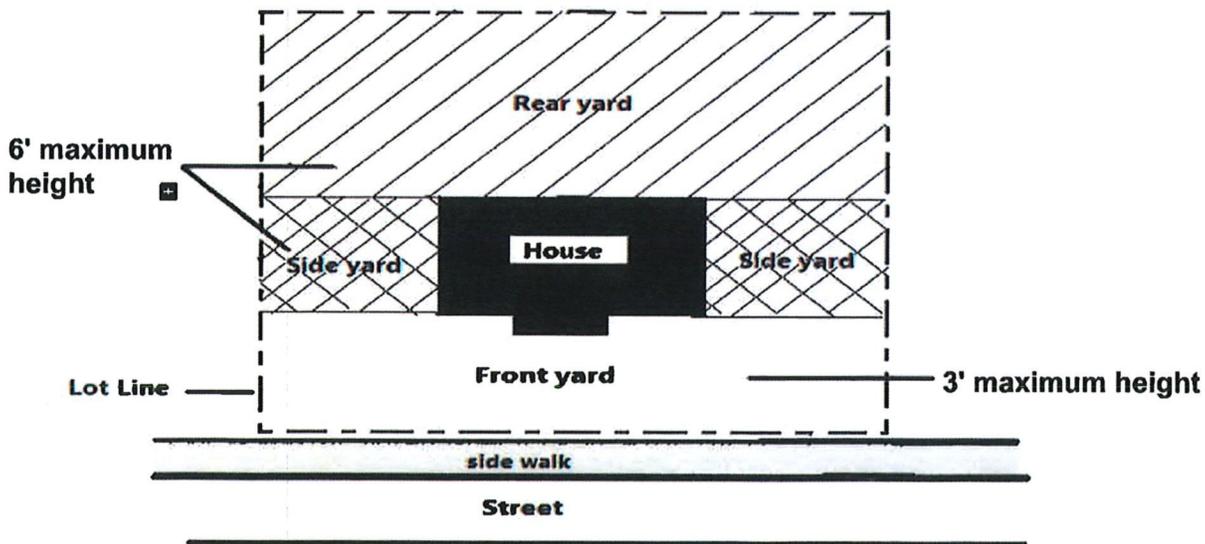
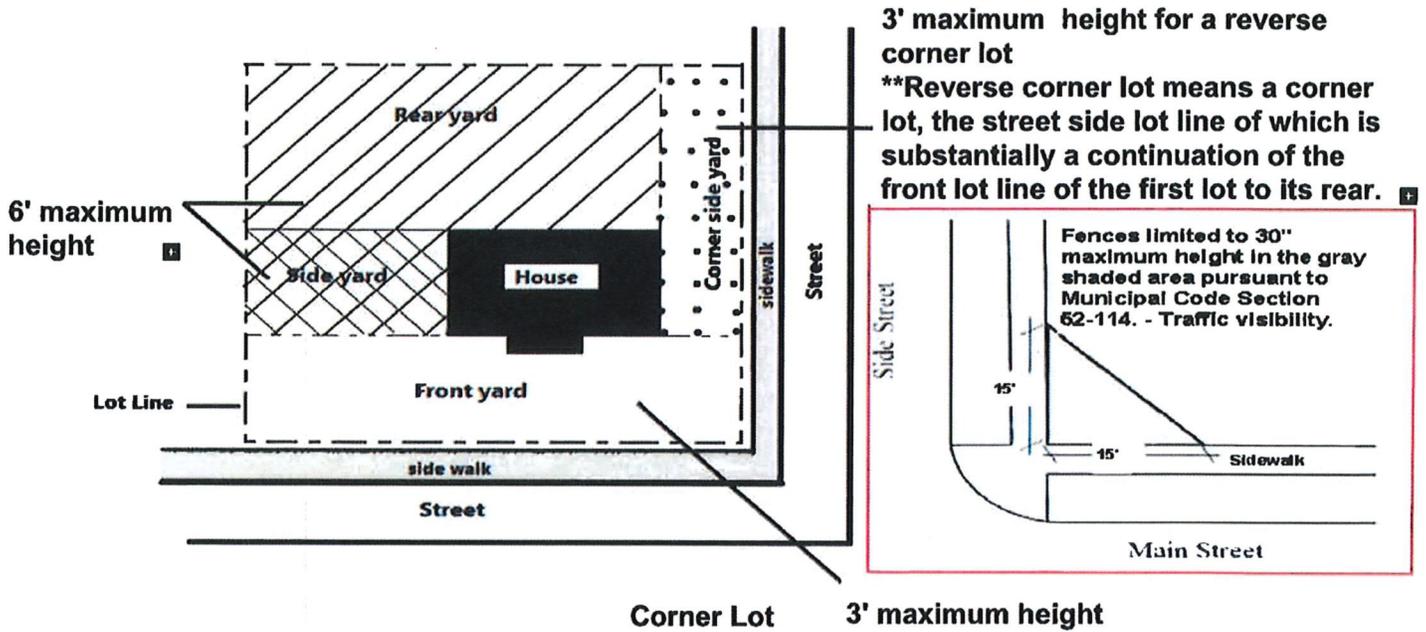
- (3) On any corner lot where a front or side yard is required or provided, no fence, hedge or other obstruction shall be placed so as to interfere with clear vision from one street to the other across the corner. See traffic visibility provisions in section 52-114.
- (4) No fence exceeding six feet in height shall be erected, constructed or maintained on any premises in a residential zoning district. Security fences are permitted in all districts except residential districts, but shall not exceed ten feet in height and shall be of an open type similar to woven wire or wrought iron fencing. Fences exceeding six feet in height to a maximum height of eight feet installed for the purpose of providing visual screening for onsite utilities, dumpsters, or similar items may be allowed by the plan commission. Swimming pool fences are covered in section 52-210. **Chain link or metal wire fences shall not exceed four feet in height on properties with residential uses.**

***The property owner is responsible for correct placement of structures upon a parcel of land to comply with the building and zoning law. The back edge of the City sidewalk is usually located on a property line.***

***Be sure to call Digger’s Hotline prior to digging. The number is 1-800-242-8511***

# City of Tomah Fence information

## Fence Placement And Height For Residential Lots



Interior Lot